



separate [Look it up](#)

Dictionary Thesaurus

[Home](#)

Premium: [Sign up](#) | [Login](#)



ADVERTISEMENT

Dictionary - Thesaurus

[See the Top 10 Ask Jeeves results for "separate"](#)

8 entries found for *separate*.

sep·a·rate  [Pronunciation Key](#) (sĕp'ə-răt')

v. **sep·a·rat·ed**, **sep·a·rat·ing**, **sep·a·rates**

v. *tr.*

- a. To set or keep apart; disunite.
- b. To space apart; scatter: *small farms that were separated one from another by miles of open land.*
- c. To sort: *separate mail by postal zones.*
2. To differentiate or discriminate between; distinguish: *a researcher who separated the various ethnic components of the population sample.*
3. To remove from a mixture or combination; isolate.
4. To part (a couple), often by decree: *She was separated from her husband last year.*
5. To terminate a contractual relationship, as military service, with; discharge.

v. *intr.*

1. To come apart.
2. To withdraw: *The state threatened to separate from the Union.*
3. To part company; disperse.

SPONSORED LINKS ADVERTISEMENT

[Never Stop Learning!](#)
Discover KnowledgeNews and get history, science, and culture by email every week.

[93% Satisfaction](#)
See why thousands of professionals in your field advance their careers with University of Phoenix.

[Free College Money!](#)
Find information on more than 600,000 scholarships!

[Improve your fluency](#)
With Champs-Elysées Audiomagazines in French, German,

4. To stop living together as spouses.
5. To become divided into components or parts: *Oil and water tend to separate.*

adj. (səp'ər-īt, səp'rīt)

1. Set or kept apart; disunited: *Libraries often have a separate section for reference books.*
2.
 - a. Existing as an independent entity.
 - b. often **Separate** Having undergone schism or estrangement from a parent body: *Separate churches.*
3. Dissimilar from all others; distinct: “a policeman's way of being separate from you even when he was being nice” (John le Carré).
4. Not shared; individual: *two people who held separate views on the issue.*
5. Archaic. Withdrawn from others; solitary.

n. (səp'ər-īt, səp'rīt)

A garment, such as a skirt, jacket, or pair of slacks, that may be purchased separately and worn in various combinations with other garments.

[Middle English *separaten*, from Latin *sēparātus*, past participle of *sēparāre*: *sē-*, *apart*; see *s(w)e-* in Indo-European Roots + *parāre*, *to prepare*; see *perə-¹* in Indo-European Roots.]

sep'ə-rately *adv.*

sep'ə-rate-ness *n.*

Synonyms: *separate, divide, part, sever, sunder, divorce*

These verbs mean to become or cause to become parted, disconnected, or disunited. *Separate* applies both to putting apart and to keeping apart: “In the darkness and confusion, the bands of these commanders became separated from each other” (Washington Irving). *Divide* implies

[Italian or Spanish!](#)

Get 4,000 FREE Smileys!

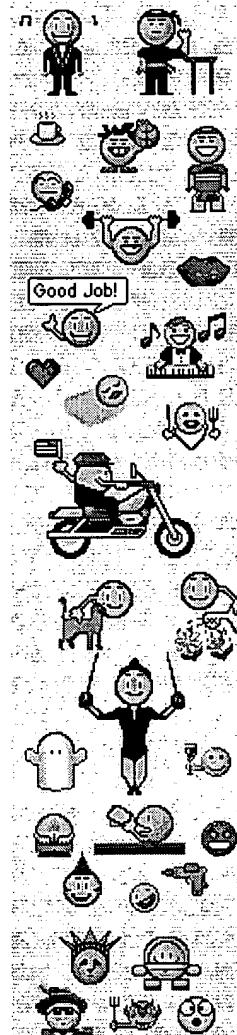
[Click Here!](#)

[Free Toolbar!](#)

Find the answers fast with the Dictionary.com Toolbar

[Supersize your brain](#)

Subscribe to Dictionary.com Premium for exclusive features & services!



separation by or as if by cutting or splitting into parts or shares; the term often refers to separation into opposing or hostile groups: *We divided the orange into segments.* “‘A house divided against itself cannot stand.’ I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free” (Abraham Lincoln). *Part* refers most often to the separation of closely associated persons or things: “Because... nothing that God or Satan could inflict would have parted us” (Emily Brontë). *Sever* usually implies abruptness and force: “His head was nearly severed from his body” (H.G. Wells). *Sunder* stresses violent tearing or wrenching apart: *The country was sundered by civil war.* *Divorce* implies complete separation: “a priest and a soldier, two classes of men circumstantially divorced from the kind and homely ties of life” (Robert Louis Stevenson). See also synonyms at [distinct](#)

[\[Buy it\]](#)

Source: *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition*
Copyright © 2000 by Houghton Mifflin Company.
Published by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.

separate

[separate](#): log in for this definition of *separate* and other entries in *Merriam-Webster Dictionary of Law*, available only to [Dictionary.com Premium](#) members.

Source: *Merriam-Webster Dictionary of Law*, © 1996
Merriam-Webster, Inc.

separate

[separate](#): log in for this definition of *separate* and other entries in *Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary*, available only to [Dictionary.com Premium](#) members.

Source: *Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary*, © 2002
Merriam-Webster, Inc.

separate

\Sep"a*rate\, v. t. [imp. & p. p. Separated; p. pr. & vb. n. Separating.] [L. separatus, p. p. of separare to separate; pfref. se- aside + parare to make ready, prepare. See Parade, and cf. Sever.] 1. To disunite; to divide; to disconnect; to sever; to part in any manner.

From the fine gold I separate the alloy. --Dryden.

Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me. --Gen. xiii. 9.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? --Rom. viii. 35.

2. To come between; to keep apart by occupying the space between; to lie between; as, the Mediterranean Sea separates Europe and Africa.

3. To set apart; to select from among others, as for a special use or service.

Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called thaem. --Acts xiii. 2.

Separated flowers (Bot.), flowers which have stamens and pistils in separate flowers; diclinous flowers. --Gray.

Source: Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.

separate

\Sep"a*rate\, v. i. To part; to become disunited; to be disconnected; to withdraw from one another; as, the family separated.

Source: Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.

separate

\Sep"a*rate\, p. a. [L. separatus, p. p.] 1. Divided from another or others; disjoined; disconnected; separated; -- said of things once connected.

Him that was separate from his brethren. --Gen. xl ix. 26.

2. Unconnected; not united or associated; distinct; -- said of things that have not been connected.

For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinnere. --Heb. vii. 26.

3. Disunited from the body; disembodied; as, a separate spirit; the separate state of souls.

Separate estate (Law), an estate limited to a married woman independent of her husband.

Separate maintenance (Law), an allowance made to a wife by her husband under deed of separation. -- Sep\|^a*rate*ly, adv. -- Sep\|^a*rate*ness, n.

Source: Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, © 1996, 1998 MICRA, Inc.

separate

adj 1: independent; not united or joint; "a problem consisting of two separate issues"; "they went their separate ways"; "formed a separate church" [ant: joint] 2: individual and distinct; "pegged down each separate branch to the earth"; "a gift for every single child" [syn: single(a)] 3: standing apart; not attached to or supported by anything; "a freestanding bell tower"; "a house with a separate garage" [syn: freestanding] 4: not living together as man and wife; "decided to live apart"; "maintaining separate households"; "they are separated" [syn: apart(p), separated] 5: characteristic of or meant for a single person or thing; "an individual serving"; "separate rooms"; "single occupancy"; "a single bed" [syn: individual, single(a)] 6: separated according to race, sex, class, or religion; "separate but equal"; "girls and boys in separate classes" 7: have the connection undone; having become separate [syn: disjoined] n 1: a separately printed article that originally appeared in a larger publication [syn: offprint, reprint] 2: a garment that can be purchased separately and worn in combinations with other garments v 1: act as a barrier between; stand between: "The mountain range divides the two countries" [syn: divide] 2: force, take, or pull apart; "He separated the fighting children"; "Moses parted the Red Sea" [syn: disunite, divide, part] 3: mark as different; "We distinguish several kinds of maple" [syn: distinguish, differentiate, secern, secernate,

severalize, tell, tell apart] 4: separate into parts or portions; "divide the cake into three equal parts"; "The British carved up the Ottoman Empire after World War I" [syn: divide, split, split up, dissever, carve up] [ant: unite] 5: divide into components or constituents; "Separate the wheat from the chaff" 6: arrange or order by classes or categories; "How would you classify these pottery shards--are they prehistoric?" [syn: classify, class, sort, assort, sort out] 7: make a division or separation [syn: divide] 8: discontinue an association or relation; go different ways; "The business partners broke over a tax question"; "The couple separated after 25 years of marriage"; "My friend and I split up" [syn: part, split up, split, break, break up] 9: go one's own away; move apart; "The friends separated after the party" [syn: part, split] 10: become separated into pieces or fragments; "The figurine broke"; "The freshly baked loaf fell apart" [syn: break, split up, fall apart, come apart] 11: treat differently on the basis of sex or race [syn: discriminate, single out] 12: come apart; "The two pieces that we had glued separated" [syn: divide, part] 13: divide into two or more branches; "The road forks" [syn: branch, ramify, fork]

Source: *WordNet ® 1.6, © 1997 Princeton University*

separate

separate: in CancerWEB's On-line Medical Dictionary

Source: *On-line Medical Dictionary, © 1997-98
Academic Medical Publishing & CancerWEB*

Perform a new search, or try your search for "separate" at:

- Amazon.com - Shop for books, music and more
- AskJeeves.com - Get the top 10 most popular sites
- eLibrary - Search thousands of newspapers and magazines
- Google - Search the Web for relevant results
- Google Groups - Search Usenet messages back to 1981
- Merriam-Webster - Search for definitions
- Roget's Thesaurus - Search for synonyms and antonyms

ADVERTISEMENT

**This button can help
make all of your debt
problems disappear**



Get the [FREE Dictionary.com Toolbar](http://Dictionary.com Toolbar) for your browser now!

From the makers of Dictionary.com

Copyright © 2003, Lexico Publishing Group, LLC. All rights reserved.

[About Dictionary.com](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Link to Us](#) | [Help](#) | [Contact Us](#)